IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Confirmation No.: 5611

Hiroaki TOOYAMA

Art Unit: 1645

Appl. No.: 10/597,072

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Filed: July 10, 2006

Atty. Docket: 2261.0050000

For: DAMPING DEVICE

Information Disclosure Statement

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying IDS Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. Copies of the documents are enclosed.

Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached IDS Form PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent

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application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on

the material submitted herewith.

Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being

filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is

required.

Documents FP1-FP4 were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a

counterpart PCT application. Submission of an English language version of the search

report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided as

document NPL1 in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance.

1138 OG 37, 38.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the

enclosed IDS Form PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent

application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee

deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

Szerne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C.

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Date:

December 15, 2006

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FORM PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT					ATTY. DOCKET NO. APPLICATION NO. 2261.0050000 10/597,072					
					FIRST NAMED INVENTOR David F. SORRELLS					
					FILING DATE			ART UNIT		
July 10, 2006 1645 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
EXAMINER	DOC.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		ME		CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE	
INITIAL	REF.				····			002 02 100		
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EXAMINER	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS EXAMINER DOC. DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS SUB-CLASS TRANSLATION									
INITIAL	REF.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME		CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION No	
	FP1 FP2	JP 11-264270 A JP 5-317133 A	12/1993		Inaga Nakayama				No	
	FP3	JP 2000-220341 A	08/2000		Suzuki et al.				No	
	FP4	JP 7-269221 A	10/1995		Shibuya				No	
		N	ON-PATENT	LITER	ATURE DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOC. REF.	CITATION								
	NPL1 English Translation of International Preliminary Report on Patentability, for PCT Applic PCT/JP2004/015269, filed October 15, 2004, 5 pages.									
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